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Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Provisional agenda and annotations

Addendum

4. Programme questions:

(b) Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

Proposed revisions to Programme 23 (Public information)

1. Pursuant to paragraph 150 of General Assembly resolution 56/253 of 24 December 2001 and the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Strengthening the United Nations: an agenda for further change" (A/57/387 and Corr.1), a comprehensive review of the Department of Public Information was conducted. The Assembly, in paragraph 11 of its resolution 57/300 of 20 December 2002, welcomed the proposal of the Secretary-General to improve the effective and targeted delivery of public information activities, including the restructuring of the Department of Public Information, in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the Assembly. In paragraph 12 of the same resolution, the Assembly invited the Committee on Information to engage actively in the process.

2. In accordance with the above, the report of the Secretary-General, entitled "Reorientation of United Nations in the field of public information and communications" (A/AC.198/2003/2), detailing the new structure and operating concepts of the Department, was reviewed by the Committee on Information at its twenty-fifth session, held from 28 April to 9 May 2003. The Committee, in paragraph 33 of its report (A/58/21), welcomed the new subprogramme structure.

3. Accordingly, a revision is proposed to replace existing programme 23, Public information, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as revised by the General Assembly in its resolution 57/282 of 20 December 2002. The proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005 takes into account the new subprogramme structure, which is different from programme 23 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/57/6/Rev.1).

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4. The proposed revisions to programme 23, Public information, will therefore be before the Committee for its consideration.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005: Programme 23, Public information (A/58/90).